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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1641
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0855
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RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 0359
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S E C R E T LONDON 000584

SIPDIS

STATE FOR ISN/RA ALLEN-CLOSE AND HEIDLBERG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/05/2029
TAGS: [EMIN](#) [ENRG](#) [ETTC](#) [IR](#) [KNNP](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [TRGY](#) [UK](#) [WA](#)
SUBJECT: UK RECEPTIVE TO DEMARCHE CONCERNING IRANIAN
ACQUISITION OF NAMIBIAN URANIUM

REF: STATE 18236

Classified By: Political Counselor Rick Mills
for reasons 1.4, b, d, and e

1. (S) Our (USG) demarche contains "a persuasive message" to share with Namibia and HMG "should be willing" to remind the Namibian government and Rio Tinto about UNSCR 1737 prohibitions on the sale or transfer of uranium to Iran, Simon Mustard, the Head of Regional Issues in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's (FCO) Counter-Proliferation Department (CPD), told Poloff March 3 (ref). Mustard promised to review ref non-paper and to provide a definitive answer as soon as possible. Duncan Johnson, of the FCO's CPD Regional Issues Section, elaborated, noting that HMG had approached Rio Tinto in the past about potential transfers from Brazil and Kazakhstan. He stated that the UK had also previously approached Namibia about possible transfers to Iran, adding, without providing further detail, that "they rebuffed us."

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